

Faculty of Health Sciences
School of Medicine Academic Council (SOMAC)
Minutes of Meeting, Tuesday, October 18, 2011

Botterell Hall, Room B147 @ 4:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

On behalf of R. Reznick, I. Young called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. with approximately 25 people present.

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by J. Fisher and seconded by K. Smith that the agenda be approved as circulated. **CARRIED**

3. Approval of the Minutes of April 26, 2011

It was moved by B. Bennett and seconded by R. Deeley that the minutes of April 26, 2011 be approved as circulated. **CARRIED**

4. Announcements

• **Basmajian Award For Excellence in Health Research – December 15, 2011**

I. Young announced that the 2010/2011 Mihran and Mary Basmajian Award would be presented to Dr. Ian Janssen on December 15, 2011. Dr. Ian Janssen has a joint appointment with the Departments of Community Health and Epidemiology and the School of Kinesiology and Health Studies. CONGRATULATIONS!

• **2011 Women in Toxicology Mentoring Award – Society of Toxicology – Louise Winn**

I. Young congratulated Dr. Louise Winn on receiving the 2011 Women in Toxicology Mentoring Award – Society of Toxicology.

• **2011 Canadian Society of Pharmacology and Therapeutics (CSPT) Pfizer Senior Scientist Award – Jim Brien**

I. Young congratulated Dr. Jim Brien on receiving the 2011 Canadian Society of Pharmacology and Therapeutics (CSPT) Pfizer Senior Scientist Award.

5. Dean's Report

• **Strategic Planning**

On behalf of R. Reznick, I. Young reported that the Strategic Plan for the Faculty of Health Sciences will have two themes: 1) A focused and detailed plan for the School of Medicine and 2) a unified plan for all three schools in the Faculty of Health Sciences. We have hired Deloitte, who are concluding their initial process of collecting information and moving into the next stage of meeting with stakeholders. They expect to have a completed Strategic Plan in place by January 2012.

R. Deeley reported that the FHS Research Strategic Plan will be aligned with the University's Strategic plan. Health Sciences will be a high level of focus with the University.

6. Undergraduate Medical Education

- **Year 3 Curriculum Motion:** ‘Following approval by the School of Medicine Executive, School of Medicine Academic Council, and Board’s approval of the principles for revising the MD curriculum that SOMAC approve the 3rd year curriculum that was introduced and implemented in September, 2011.’

This item was deferred.

- **Admission Requirement Prerequisites – Changes**

H. MacDonald, Chair of the SOM Admission’s Committee reported that as a result of the SOM Retreat this past June, some needed changes were brought to light. One of these changes was to eliminate the current admission requirement pertaining to prerequisites specifically one full credit in each of Biological sciences, physical sciences and humanities. H. MacDonald reported that five other Canadian Universities do not require prerequisites. So it is a 50/50 split. There is a validity issue whereas this could broaden the applicant pool. Having these prerequisites could be problematic to students in obtaining admission to the prerequisite courses, as there are enrollment limits. The SOM has no way of assessing the prerequisite courses. It was unanimous from the Admissions Committee to drop the prerequisite requirement and also approved by the MD-PEC. The change would take place September 2013. Discussion ensued.

It was then moved by H. MacDonald and seconded by R. Deeley that SOMAC approve the removal of prerequisites from the Admission Criteria effective with the entrance class of 2013. **CARRIED**

7. Postgraduate Medical Education

- **Accreditation Visit – Exit Interview Results**

In R. Walker’s absence, I. Young reported that the Exit review of the Postgraduate Accreditation visit was an unprecedented success. Congratulations to R. Walker and to all involved.

8. Vice-Dean Academic

- **Revised MOU between the Schools of Medicine, Nursing and Rehabilitation Therapy**

The revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was distributed with the agenda and I. Young reported that these rules would govern the three schools under the Faculty of Health Sciences. The purpose is to establish a framework that defines their administrative relationships while still maintaining their individual autonomy. It is essential for accreditation purposes. The Schools of Nursing and Rehabilitation Therapy have supported the revised MOU.

It was then moved by B. Bennett and seconded by A. Croy that SOMAC approve the revised MOU between the Schools of Medicine, Nursing and Rehabilitation Therapy.

CARRIED

9. Nominating Committee

- **Motion:** ‘That Dr. Robert Hudson (1–year appointment), Dr. Graeme Smith (2–year appointment) and Dr. Michael Raul (3–year appointment) be appointed to the MD/PhD Committee effective July 1, 2011.’

With the correction of the last name “Raul” to “Rauh” it was moved by D. Edgar and seconded by H. MacDonald that the above-mentioned members be appointed to the MD/PhD-MD/Masters Program Committee. **CARRIED**

- **Motion:** ‘That Dr. Fred Watkins be appointed for a 3–year term to the Progress and Promotions Committee effective July 1, 2011.’

It was moved by D. Edgar and seconded by R. Van Wylick that Dr. Fred Watkins be appointed for a 3-year term to the Progress and Promotions Committee effective July 1, 2011. **CARRIED**

- **Motion: ‘that new terms of reference for the Student Awards Committee be approved expanding the Committee from 4 elected members to 5 elected members.’**

It was moved by D. Edgar and seconded by B. Bennett that the membership on the Student Awards Committee be expanded from 4 elected members to 5 elected members. **CARRIED**

- **Motion: ‘That Dr. Paul Belliveau be appointed for a 3–year term to the Student Awards Committee effective July 1, 2011.’**

It was moved by D. Edgar and seconded by H. MacDonald that Paul Belliveau be appointed for a 3- year term to the Student Awards Committee effective July 1, 2011. **CARRIED**

- **Motion: ‘That SOMAC approve the creation of an Executive Committee of Faculty Board.’**

A draft proposal to create an Executive Committee of Faculty Board was distributed with the agenda. D. Edgar reported that the Executive Committee is being considered mainly because of the low attendance at our current Faculty Board meetings. The Executive Committee would meet on a monthly basis and receive items for approval from all three Academic Councils. A full Faculty Board meeting will be scheduled in the month of February only. Board Executive material and minutes will be posted on the Faculty Board website for all to read. The Schools of Nursing and Rehabilitation Therapy have given their support.

During discussion the following issues were mentioned:

- The membership of the Board Executive will be: The Dean, Director of each School, The Secretary to the Faculty, The Chair of Board, Student Representation.
- If a contentious issue arises that needs all faculty input then an emergency meeting of all faculty could be called at any time.
- The Board Executive would be able to approve minor issues and forward to Senate.
- D. Edgar to write up Terms of Reference for the new Board Executive.

It was then moved by D. Edgar and seconded by B. Bennett that SOMAC approve the creation of an Executive Committee of Faculty Board. CARRIED

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 5:05 p.m

David R. Edgar
Secretary to the School of Medicine